**Intro to Physical Geography**

**Physical geography:** study of the earth features; land, water, and climate; their relationship to one another and to human activities; and the forces that create and change them.

1. List the layers of the earth from the centre to the atmosphere, and indicate whether they are liquid, solid or gas.
2. What is the reason for the nickname “Pacific Ring of Fire?”
3. Explain why eastern Canada experiences relatively few major earthquakes
4. What did the German scientist Alfred Wegener believe about the earth’s continents?
5. What are three evidences that support Wegener’s theory?
6. What is the term we use today for Wegner’s theory?

**What are Landforms.**

Landforms are the natural features that make up the earth’s surface features that make up the earth's surface, such as a plain, mountain, or valley. We use Topography to make detailed description of the physical features of an area. Topography is described using:

Elevation – the height of a landform  
Relief – the difference in elevation between two points  
Gradient – steepness of slopes  
Geology – types of rocks and the history of the rocks

**How are Landforms Built ?**

1. What are two ways convection currents in the earth’s mantle create landforms?
2. After landforms are created by the convection currents how are they shaped to create Canada’s topography?

**Canada’s Landform Regions**

What are the characteristics geographers use to classify landform regions in Canada?

There are eight main landform regions in Canada.

Canadian Shield  
Appalachian Mountains  
Western Cordillera  
Innuitian Mountains  
Arctic Lowlands  
Interior Plains  
Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Lowlands  
Hudson Bay Lowlands

List two characteristics for each landform region that would be used to classify that region.